

## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

### **STAFF NOTE**

#### **Action Item:**

Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation Partnership Agreement

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

The Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) should approve the updated Partnership Agreement with the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP)

#### **Rationale:**

In October 2021, the Education Professional Standards Board (EPSB) approved the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP) as an accreditor of education preparation providers (EPPs) in Kentucky. The established partnership agreement has been updated to outline partner expectations between the EPSB and AAQEP.

#### **Action Question:**

Should the EPSB approve the state Partnership Agreement with AAQEP?

#### **Applicable Statute or Regulation:**

KRS 161.028, 16 KAR 5:010

#### **History/Background:**

**Existing Policy:** At the October 2021 meeting, the EPSB approved AAQEP as a national accreditor of educator preparation, allowing EPPs to seek national accreditation from AAQEP to meet the requirements of 16 KAR 5:010. At the February 2022 meeting, the initial partnership agreement between the EPSB and AAQEP was approved to outline expectations and procedures. At the April 2025 meeting, the EPSB approved an update from AAQEP.

**Summary:** In accordance with the recent update from AAQEP, the partnership agreement has also been updated. As an approved accreditor of EPPs in Kentucky, there are various agreement requirements and responsibilities that need to be established by both partners. The partnership agreement includes requirements related to:

- Standards Used in Quality Assurance Reviews in Kentucky
- Scope of Quality Assurance Reviews in Kentucky
- Quality Assurance Review Process
- Quality Review Team Composition
- Reviewer Preparation and Qualifications
- Relation of Accreditation to Program Approval
- Accreditation Decisions
- Communication and Logistics of Collaboration
- AAQEP Capacity Review and Formative Support

- Membership

EPSB staff have reviewed the proposed agreement provided by AAQEP and revised according to Kentucky regulatory expectations. A copy of the agreement is included for EPSB review.

***Budget Impact:*** There are no state dues reflected in the Partnership Agreement.

**Contact Person:**

Dr. Melissa Diebel, Academic Program Manager  
Division of Educator Preparation and Certification  
Office of Educator Licensure and Effectiveness  
(502) 564-4606  
Email: [melissa.diebel@education.ky.gov](mailto:melissa.diebel@education.ky.gov)